

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

OMB-01 IO-10 /071 W

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P R 230703Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3997

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

CINCPAC HONOLULU

COMIPAC HONOLULU

COMUSSAG NKP THAILAND

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 3329

FOLLOWING MSG SENT ACTION SAIGON INFO USDAO/SAIGON 23 MARCH 1975

BEING REPEATED TO YOU

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DANANG 0284

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, VS

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON MILITARY SITUATION IN MR-1, 23 MARCH 75

AS OF 0600 HOURS, MARCH 23D, I CORPS HQS TOC AND G-3 BRIEFED
THE FOLLOWING:

1. THE NVA/VC FORCE THAT WAS REPORTED IN CONTROL OF A PORTION OF
HWY 1 IN THE VICINITY OF ZD020026, PHU LOC (D), THUA THIEN (P),
NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS, AT 1315 HOURS, MARCH 22D, REMAINS IN
VSLGOR AND THEY HAVE INTERDICTED TRAFFIC. ELEMENTS OF
THE 8TH MARINE BN AND 94TH RANGER BN PRESENTLY FIGHTING TO RE-
CAPTURE THIS PORTION OF THE HIGHWAY, ARE REPORTED FROM ONE TO
TWO KILOMETERS APART AND TRYING TO CLEAR THE ROAD BETWEEN.

2. AT 0400 HRS, MARCH 23, THE THUA LUU BRIDGE AT ZD198010, PHU
LOC (D), THUA THIEN (P), GUARDED BY AN RF ELEMENT WAS BLOWN UP
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BY NVA/VC CAUSING 50 PERCENT DAMAGE AND AN INTERRUPTION OF TRAF-

FIC. THE G-3 STATED THAT THE BRIDGE IS NOT BZYNG REPAIRED AT THE PRESENT TIME DUE TO ABFS AND THE CLOGGED ROAD CONDITIONS CAUSED BY EVACUEES. HE WAS UNABLE TO PREDICT AT THIS TIME, WHEN REPAIRS WOULD BE GEGUN OR COMPLETED. GROUND CLEARING ACTIONS ARE BE NG CARRIED OUT BY ARVN UNITS IN THE VICINITY.

3. STATUS OF HIGHWAY 1: NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS THE ROAD IS INTERDICTED BY AN NVA/VC FORCE AND A DAMAGED BRIDGE. IN ADDITION, THE ROAD IS PACKED SOLID WITH MILITARY TRUCKS, EQUIPMENT, AND EVACUEES. SOUTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS, THE ROAD IS FULLY OPER-
ATIONAL FROM DANANG TO QUANG NGAI CITY. SOUTH OF QUANG NGAI CITY TO THE QUANG NGAI - BINH DINH (P) BORDER THE ROAD IS OPEN AND ALL DAMAGED BRIDGES AND CULVERTS HAVE BEEN REPAIRED; TRAFFIC ON THIS PORTION OF THE HIGHWAY IS LIKELY TO ENCOUNTER SNIPER, OR SMALL ROCKET FIRE.

4. RLO COMMENT: THE I CORPS G-3 STATED THAT EVACUEES ON HWY 1 ARE BEING GUIDED TO NEARBY BEACHES WHERE THEY ARE BEING LOADED ON 24 LCM-8, AND LCUS THAT ARE SHUTTTLING THEM TO DANANG CITY.
END COMMENT.

FRANCIS
UNQUOTE
LEHMANN

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NNN

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